AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

- 1. (Currently Amended) A synthetic apolipoprotein-E mimicking polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence selected from the group of
- (i) X Y Arg Arg Y X X Y Y Arg Y Y Arg X Y X (SEQ ID NO: 208) or the reverse sequence thereof,
- (ii) Arg Arg Y Y-X X Y Y-Arg Y Y-Arg X Y (SEQ ID-NO: 209) or the reverse sequence thereof,
 - (iii) Y-Y X-X-Y-Y-Arg-Y Y-Arg-X Y-Y-X or the reverse sequence thereof, and
- $\stackrel{\text{(iv)}}{\text{X-Y-Arg-Arg-Y-Y-X-X-Y-Y-Arg-Y-Y-Arg}}$ (SEQ ID NO: 210) or the reverse sequence thereof,

wherein X is glycine, threonine, serine or alanine,

wherein Y is a hydrophobic amino acid,

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wherein the polypeptide comprises an acetyl group at the N-terminus and an amide group at the C-terminus, and

wherein the polypeptide consists of a single domain.

- 2. (Original) The polypeptide of claim 1, wherein Y is selected from the group consisting of phenylalanine, tyrosine, leucine, isoleucine, valine, and tryptophan.
- 3. (Original) The polypeptide of claim 1, wherein the polypeptide comprises from about 10 amino acids to about 30 amino acids in length.
- 4. (Currently Amended) The polypeptide of claim 1, wherein the polypeptide comprises a sequence of consecutive amino acids selected from the group of SEQ ID NOS: 1-207 SEQ ID NOS: 2, 4, 5, 8, 10-11, 13, 18, 21, 110-121, 127, 129, 131, 133, 137,

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141, 145, 150, 155-160, 167, 168, 194-196, and 203-204.

- 5. (Original) The polypeptide of claim 1, wherein the polypeptide comprises the sequence Gly-Ile-Arg-Arg-Phe-Leu-Gly-Ser-Ile-Trp-Arg-Phe-Ile-Arg-Ala-Phe-Tyr-Gly (SEQ ID NO:5).
- 6. (Original) The polypeptide of claim 1, which is a recombinant polypeptide.
- 7. (Original) The polypeptide of claim 1, which is a synthetic polypeptide.
- 8. (Original) The polypeptide of claim 1, which is a peptidomimetic.
- 9. (Original) An isolated nucleic acid encoding the polypeptide of claim 1.
- 10. (Original) The nucleic acid of claim 9, wherein the nucleic acid comprises DNA, RNA and/or cDNA.
- 11. (Original) A vector comprising the nucleic acid of claim 9.
- 12. (Original) A host cell comprising the nucleic acid of claim 9.
- 13. (Original) The host cell of claim 12, which is eukaryotic or prokaryotic.
- 14. (Original) The polypeptide of claim 1, wherein the polypeptide enhances binding of low-density lipoprotein (LDL) or very low density lipoprotein (VLDL) to a cell.
- 15. (Original) The polypeptide of claim 1, wherein the polypeptide enhances degradation of low-density lipoprotein (LDL) or very low density lipoprotein (VLDL) by a cell.
- 16. (Original) A composition comprising the polypeptide of claims 1 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.
- 17. (Original) The composition of claim 16, wherein the carrier comprises dimyristoylphosphatidyl (DMPC), phosphate buffered saline or a multivesicular

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liposome.

18. (Original) A monoclonal antibody that specifically binds to the polypeptide of claim 1.

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- 19. (Original) A method for enhancing LDL binding to a cell, the method comprising contacting the cell with the polypeptide of claim 1.
- 20. (Original) A method for enhancing LDL and VLDL binding to a cell in a subject, the method comprising administering the polypeptides of claim 1, or a composition thereof, to the subject in an amount effective to increase LDL and VLDL binding to the cell of the subject.
- 21. (Original) A method for reducing serum cholesterol in a subject, the method comprising the step of administering to the subject an amount of the polypeptides of claim 1, or a composition thereof, effective to increase binding of LDL and/or VLDL to cells in the subject, thereby reducing serum cholesterol in the subject.
- 22. (Original) A method for treating a subject with coronary artery disease, the method comprising the step of administering to the subject an amount of the polypeptides of claim 1, or a composition thereof, to thereby treat the subject.
- 23. (Original) A method for treating a subject with dysbetalipoproteinemia, the method comprising the step of administering to the subject an amount of the polypeptide of claim 1, or a composition thereof, to thereby treat the subject.
- 24. (Original) A method for reducing the risk of myocardial infarction in a subject, the method comprising the step of administering to the subject an amount of the polypeptide of claim 1, or a composition thereof, to thereby treat the subject.

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- 25. (Original) A method for treating atherosclerosis in a subject, the method comprising the step of administering to the subject the polypeptide of claim 1, or a composition thereof.
- 26. (Original) A recombinant cell comprising the nucleic acid of claim 9.
- 27. (Original) A recombinant cell producing the polypeptide of claim 1.
- 28. (Original) A transgenic, non-human subject comprising the nucleic acid of claim 9.
- 29. (Original) The transgenic subject of claim 28, wherein the subject is an animal or a plant.
- 30. (Original) A transgenic non-human subject expressing the polypeptide of claim 1.
- 31. (Original) The method of claim 19, wherein the administration is oral, parenteral, by intramuscular injection, by intraperitoneal injection, transdermal, extracorporeal, topical, intranasal or by inhalant.
- 32. (Original) The method of claim 19, wherein the subject is a human subject.
- 33. (Original) The method of claim 19, wherein the subject is mammal is a mouse, a rat, a rabbit, a cow, a sheep, a pig, or a primate.
- 34. (Original) The method of claim 33, wherein the primate is a human, a monkey, an ape, a chimpanzee, or an orangutan.